

MILLIONAIRE, IN WHITE SLAVE NET, CRIES BLACKMAIL

Col. Charles A. Alexander, of Providence, Held for Chicago Authorities.

INDICTMENT IS PENDING

Los Angeles Social Leader Says She Posed as His Wife.

HAS BURNING LOVE LETTERS

Pair Traveled About Country. She Says—Break Came Five Months Ago.

Special to The Washington Herald.
Chicago, Dec. 4.—The Federal grand jury will return an indictment Monday against Col. Charles A. Alexander, of Providence, R. I., charging him with a violation of the Mann act. Col. Alexander is reputed to be a multi-millionaire. He is a member of the firm of Alexander Brothers, in Providence, and also is a director in the Canadian Steel Company. He was arrested in Providence tonight and will be returned to Chicago for trial.

The shattered love of Miss Jessie E. Cope, a social leader of Los Angeles, Cal., is responsible for the colonel's prosecution by the government. She appeared before the grand jury several weeks ago and told her story. At present she is in Chicago. The government has her under surveillance because, it is reported, the grand jury may act in her case under a charge of extortion. District Attorney Charles F. Cline would not discuss this tonight, however. Col. Alexander is sixty-two years old and Miss Cope is thirty-four. They met two years ago in Los Angeles. The government charges that soon after their first meeting the colonel told Miss Cope that he would marry her provided he could obtain a divorce from his wife.

Promised to Wed Her

A statement given out by District Attorney Cline tonight was as follows: "Col. Alexander proceeded to make violent love to Miss Cope. The evidence of Miss Cope shows that she relied upon his promise to marry her. Acting upon his suggestion she met him in Chicago in February, 1913, at the Grand Pacific Hotel."

The government charges that the two occupied connecting rooms in the hotel for several days. Thereafter, it is said, they traveled to New Orleans where they stopped at the St. Charles Hotel, and then returned to California.

During the entire trip, it is charged that the colonel and Miss Cope lived as man and wife.

Miss Cope told the grand jury that the colonel showed beautiful presents upon her and gave her large sums of money. Finally, she said, he built her a costly bungalow near Taunton, Mass.

The government has a love letter which will be read, it is said, when the colonel is placed on trial.

"Blackmail," He Cries.
Providence, Dec. 4.—"Blackmail" was the reply of Col. Charles Alexander to a white slave complaint on which he was arrested here tonight by Federal officers at the request of Chicago officials.

Col. Alexander, who is rated as several times a millionaire, was arraigned before United States Commissioner Archibald Matheron. He waived the reading of the complaint and preliminary examination and when his bail was fixed at \$7,500, was freed on security offered by Robert G. Foster, a friend.

Col. Alexander is a director in the United Trust Company, of Providence, and also is heavily interested in several of the largest manufacturing companies in Rhode Island, and is a director of a large steel corporation in Canada.

He is prominent socially and politically, having been colonel of the crack First Light Artillery Regiment of Providence, and Republican Presidential elector eight years ago.

Col. Alexander said he was "knocked in a heap by the indictment against him, and started to make a statement to reporters, but was forbidden to talk by his counsel, Henry W. Davis.

Italy Seizes Portuguese Destroyer, Is Report

Berlin, Dec. 4 (by wireless).—A dispatch from Milan states that the Italian government has seized a torpedobomb destroyer that was being built at Genoa for the Portuguese government.

Russia is reported to be sending more reinforcements to trans-Caucasia to fight the Turks, having been taken by surprise by the fine organization and equipment of the Turkish army.

WHITE FLAG AND A WORD SAVE CASTLE OF BOOZE

Germans, After Feasting in Chateau on Choice Food and Liquors, Yield to French.

Boulogne, Dec. 4.—A town official given the following details about the occupation of his town last week:

"One hundred and fifty-five Germans took up their quarters in a castle three miles distant. They stayed thirty hours. During that time they ate 400 eggs, thirty-five kilos of salt butter, five loaves, five crabs, ten boxes of sardines, six bottles of dried beans, eight bags of peas, sixty pots of jam and a cow."

"They drank two casks of beer, 100 bottles of cider, 335 litres of red wine, 225 litres of white wine, forty-eight bottles of malaga wine and twelve dozen bottles of cognac and champagne."

"When prepared to leave, the Germans found that a regiment of French artillery had taken up its position in the neighborhood. The Germans returned to the castle and hoisted a white flag, no shots being fired. An officer went out to speak with a French lieutenant, and in less than half an hour the 155 Germans had surrendered."

PAINTINGS OF MASTERS ARE DAMAGED BY FIRE

Loss of \$1,000,000 Results from Blaze on Ship Carrying Art Consignment.

Special to The Washington Herald.
New York, Dec. 4.—Admission was made today at the art galleries of Duveen Bros., 730 Fifth avenue, and E. Kleinberger & Co., 709 Fifth avenue, that the loss on the paintings by old masters burned in the hold of the Mississippi, a freight steamer of the French Line, which arrived here November 27, is approximately \$1,000,000. The first news of the fire came known today.

The ship carried the largest art consignment for the United States that has been made this season. Included were both paintings and antique objects of art. The cases containing them were badly charred, and the paintings suffered when the hold was filled with salt water. The fire started shortly after the Mississippi left Havre. The ship put into Brest, where it was found the ship had not been damaged.

TA-TA, TIGHT SKIRT! YOUR END IS NEAR

It Will Come Next Spring, Under Plans of National Manufacturers' Association.

Toledo, Ohio, Dec. 4.—Women are not going to wear tight skirts any more. Such is fashion's decree for next spring and summer. The makers of American styles for women decided upon that point at the twenty-fifth semi-annual convention of the National Cloak, Suit, and Skirt Manufacturers' Association.

Statements made today are that women will wear tailor-made suits, with plenty of plaits in the skirt, when they start out on their Easter morning display of finery.

Styles will be much more severe and practical. The coat must be short—about twenty-four inches—with "ordinary" sleeves and of a "plain, quiet color." Skirts will be about six inches from the ground.

CO-EDS PUT "NAUGHTY" BOOK OUT OF BUSINESS

Story of "The Girl Who Advertised" Offends Them and They Have Harvard Monthly Suspended.

Boston, Dec. 4.—Young women students of Radcliffe College were so deeply affronted by a story which appeared in the Harvard Monthly Magazine today that they caused this undergraduate publication to be suspended and all available copies withdrawn from the news stands.

The heroine of this story allowed herself to be supported by a wealthy Boston admirer so that she could realize her ambition and get an education.

The college girls heard of the story immediately, and after buying several copies and talking the matter over they decided to demand the withdrawal of the entire edition. Their demand was complied with immediately. The story, by Arthur Wilson, bore the title, "The Girl Who Advertised."

CHICAGO WILL RUN ITS OWN TANGO SCHOOL

Having Started Municipal Balls, the City Will Now Teach the Latest Dancing Steps.

Special to The Washington Herald.
Chicago, Dec. 4.—A municipal dancing school is to be opened by the city of Chicago next week. Not only that but the fox trot, the tango and other new dances frowned on by righteous persons are to be taught the unsophisticated youth.

And this is the town that first put the curtain on September Morn'.

Mrs. I. Z. Meder, director of public welfare, made the announcement today.

A West Side dance hall, the license of which was revoked by Mayor Harrison several weeks ago, will house what probably will be the first municipal dancing school in America. For 10 cents any one in Chicago will be taught the latest steps.

Baltimore and Ohio to Baltimore.
\$1.25 round trip every Saturday and Sunday, good returning until 9 a. m. Monday.—Adv.

RETAILERS WANT FAVOR EXTENDED U. S. EMPLOYEES

Wilson Told Saturday Half-holiday Needed to Do Christmas Shopping.

STORES CLOSE EARLIER

Want Rush Lessened, Says Letter to Executive from Secretary Columbus.

ADVANTAGES WILL BE EVEN

Trade Needs All Help It Can Get at This Time, They State in Their Appeal.

Employees of the Federal government are to be granted Saturday half holidays on December 12 and 19 if President Wilson views with favor a plea sent to him by the Retail Merchants' Association of Washington, urging an executive order to that effect.

The appeal was contained in a letter to the President delivered to Secretary Tumulty yesterday afternoon by Charles J. Columbus, secretary of the local organization. The request is with a view to minimizing the expected Christmas rush, thus rendering a service to both merchants and purchasers.

The letter states that, due to the enactment of the law prescribing a maximum of eight hours of work per day for the female employees engaged in mercantile and other establishments of the District, it will be impossible for stores to remain open evenings in advance of the Christmas holidays, as formerly was the custom.

Prevents Shopping.

This, the letter points out, will deprive employees of the Federal government of a reasonable opportunity to arrange for those amenities so long a custom with the people of America.

"There consequently is brought about a situation which works to the disadvantage of both the buyer and seller in the National Capital," reads the appeal.

"The law prevents the two classes from having a common time for trading. Appreciating the wonderful interest you manifest in the welfare of all our people, we respectfully petition that you take advantage of an act of Congress which gives Federal employees a half-day holiday on Saturdays the year around, from 12 noon, but which was taken away, save for the summer period, by an executive order."

We are convinced that to grant the half-day holidays as above requested would not only be a graceful and merited compliment to the servants of all the people of the land, but would likewise assist in the development of trade, which at this time is worthy of the greatest consideration.

MERRITT DEAD; WAS REPUBLICAN IN HOUSE

New York Representative Had Served Two Terms in Lower House—Long Record in Assembly.

Watertown, N. Y., Dec. 4.—Edwin A. Merritt, jr., member of Congress for the Thirty-first district of this State, died today at his home in Potsdam. Mr. Merritt was fifty-four years old, and was serving his third term in Congress. He was a Republican, and was speaker of the State legislature when nominated for Representative in Congress.

Mr. Merritt was born in Pierrepont, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., July 23, 1860. He was graduated from the Potsdam Normal School in the class of 1879, and from Yale University in the class of 1884. The following year he was deputy superintendent of the town of Potsdam, St. Lawrence County, from 1884 to 1893.

He was elected to the assembly, representing the Second assembly district of St. Lawrence County, in 1893, and served continuously until 1912, when he was elected speaker of the assembly, which position he held at the time of his election to the Sixty-second Congress. He had served two other terms as members of the House of Representatives.

WOMAN TURNING TO STONE. Wife of Connecticut Merchant Victim of Strange Disease.

Meriden, Conn., Dec. 4.—Mrs. William J. Fredericks, the wife of a local merchant, is gradually turning to stone. Although her lower limbs are petrified and her arms are becoming rigid, her mind is clear. She is fifty years old.

Her voice has failed. Only her husband and the nurses can interpret the sounds she utters. Physicians say it is very exceptional among the cases in this part of the country. Specialists are unable to find out with certainty the cause of her disease, and some of them believe that Mrs. Fredericks suffers from a kind of rheumatism. Her vitality is phenomenal, but she cannot recover. Her illness has lasted five years.

CAPITAL ALLEYS MUST STAY, SAYS CIVIC PLANNER

Expense of Elimination Prohibitive, Asserts Thomas Adams.

CONDITIONS HERE GOOD

Open and Clean Up Un-sightly Streets, He Advises.

DELAY ALWAYS CALAMITOUS

Expert to Lecture at New Masonic Temple Sunday—Proceeds for Belgian Relief.

It would be insane to eliminate the alleys of the National Capital, in the opinion of Thomas Adams, of Ottawa, Canada, adviser to the Canadian government on housing and city planning, and one of the world's leading authorities on this subject.

"Any scheme of improvement with that idea as its basis is ridiculous," said Mr. Adams yesterday afternoon after an inspection tour of the city, "for the expense would be so enormous as to be prohibitive from a standpoint of sound economy. It has been suggested to convert these alleys into interior parks. Such a plan would be uneconomic and consequently foolish."

"Washington has enough fine parks without seeking additional ones where the alleys are now. The solution of the problem is to open up these alleys, to give them suitable entrances and exits, to condemn the hopelessly unsafe and unsightly structures, and to improve the general surroundings. Some of the alleys might be converted into interior playgrounds, but not all."

"Such should be the basis of action in attacking the alley problem. It would be relatively inexpensive, would result in an astonishing enhancement of beauty and improvement from a standpoint of sanitation, and it would make life in Washington proportionately healthier and happier."

Washington Conditions Good.

"I do not think conditions in Washington are bad. The objectionable features may be eliminated easily and cheaply. But this should be done at once. Delay is dangerous and expensive, and always calamitous."

"I have seen the recently-erected model houses of the city, and they serve very well as a starting point. But the land upon which they are erected was bought at too high a price. If the land had been cheaper, it would have been possible to have beauty and improvement from a standpoint of financial outlay. City planners and city planners always should give as much consideration to economy and utility as to artistic beauty."

Mr. Adams is adviser on housing and town planning to the Canadian government, and for many years was member of the local government board of Great Britain. His reputation is international.

Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock Mr. Adams is to lecture at New Masonic Temple auditorium on "The Housing of the People," the proceeds to go toward the Belgian relief fund.

Persia Protests Against Violation of Neutrality

Berlin, Dec. 4 (by wireless).—It is reported from a Turkish source that Persia has protested to Great Britain against the violation of Persian neutrality by the British navy. A British warship has been making use of the Karun River, which is neutral Persian territory.

RUSSIANS BOMBARD CRACOW; JAPANESE FIGHT IN POLAND; FRENCH ADVANCE IN ALSACE

GERMANS RUSH RHINE TROOPS INTO ALSACE

French Take the Offensive and Big Battle Impends.

KAISER IS IN POLAND

Teutons Claim Advance Along Aisne and Rheims Is Near Fall.

JAPANESE ASSIST RUSSIANS

Allies Rush Aid to Serbia and Montenegro—Germans Repulse All Attacks.

By FREDERICK WERNER.
Berlin, Dec. 4 (by wireless).—French attacks in West Flanders have been repulsed repeatedly, it was announced officially by the German general staff today. The statement says:

"Western headquarters reports that in the western theater of war all French attacks against us in West Flanders have been repulsed. Northwest of Altkirch (Upper Alsace) the French have suffered considerable losses."

"In the eastern theater of war Russian attacks east of the Mazurian lakes were repulsed with heavy losses to the enemy."

Emperor William is paying a visit to the German troops in the Czestochowa district, it was officially announced, and has complimented them, through their commanders, upon their fine achievements in Poland.

(Czestochowa is fifteen miles from the German frontier in Poland.)

A new battle is developing in Alsace and the Vosges, in which recent developments may be expected shortly. The French have assumed the offensive, but the German forces are being strongly reinforced with troops drawn from the Rhine Valley.

Japs in Russian Army.

Dispatches from the Alsine district admit that terrific havoc has been wrought by the German artillery at Rheims, but this was unavoidable because of the positions taken up by the French. Already the damage in Rheims is estimated at \$2,000,000 and the cannonade there is still in progress. The Germans are making steady progress in that region. Some of their trenches are less than 2,000 yards from Rheims.

It is reported from Vienna that the allies are sending re-inforcements to Serbia and Montenegro. Transports, escorted by French and British warships, have reached Antivari, a Montenegrin port on the Adriatic, but the presence of Austrian aeroplanes is holding up the disembarkment of the troops.

Turks, working under the direction of German engineers, are constructing a military railway from Palestine to the Suez Canal.

According to dispatches from the eastern theater of war, the reports that Japanese troops are fighting with the Russians has been confirmed. More Japanese troops are reported to be on their way to the Russian front via the Trans-Siberian Railway.

JOFFRE MASSES HUGE ARMY FOR GRAND ASSAULT

Will Hurl Millions Against Germans Simultaneously on Three Points.

HOPES TO ROUT INVADERS

Would Drive Teutons from France, Alsace, and West Flanders.

TEUTONS LOSE EAST OF YPRES

Other Reverses for Kaiser's Arms Reported from Argonne and in Alsace.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.
Paris, Dec. 4.—Gen. Joffre's allied forces are marshaled for a final test of strength with the Germans. The counter-offensive which is to be the supreme effort of the French commander-in-chief to expel the invaders from France, Alsace and West Flanders gradually is developing and the moment of the great drive nears.

Simultaneously in Flanders, along the Aisne and in Alsace—on three distinct fronts where the fighting of the past few days has developed great vigor—the fury of the grand assault is expected to break forth.

For two weeks, ever since the campaign on the eastern frontier began to turn in favor of the Russian arms, the strength of the allied armies has been rolling up in great billows until today Joffre has at his command an army as perfect in equipment, in training and in morale as modern science of war can develop.

Today's official reports from the front record repulses to the German attempts to retrieve their lost territory between Beclere, five miles east of Ypres, and Paschendaele, seven miles northeast of that town. These are points on the allies' salient thrown out to protect Ypres from German assault. The German infantry attempted to advance under vigorous cannonading, but they were met and thrown back by the British and Scottish battalions holding these positions.

The German bombardment was maintained from Ypres as far as Roulers. The main activity of the Germans was evidenced along the stretch between the railway which connects Ypres and Roulers. The highway between the towns of Beclere and Paschendaele also was the scene of terrific conflicts.

In the development of the fighting to the north of Arras the French troops were able to continue the work of strengthening the positions taken from the Germans in the fighting of Monday, particularly at Vermelles, between Lens and La Bassée.

Tonight's official communique from Bordeaux states that in this northern area alone the allies on Wednesday succeeded in making captive 951 Germans.

German infantry essayed new attacks against the French trenches in the Argonne region, but all met with failure. Most violent of these efforts was the assault on La Corne, northwest of the forest of Gurie, which is about twenty-five miles west of Verdun.

In Alsace the fighting is developing with surprising activity. Official statements from Bordeaux claim that the French have advanced steadily in the direction of Altkirch and near that city. Unofficial reports are that the offensive movement is also gaining in the direction of Muelhausen.

The sporadic engagements in which the French and Germans have met during the past week apparently have led to a general battle which is now in progress and which is reported to be of greater magnitude than any yet fought on the French right.

GOLD IN ILLINOIS; DO YOUR MINING EARLY

At Least, University Assayers Say Ore Found in Stream Is the Precious Metal.

Champaign, Ill., Dec. 4.—Gold has been discovered in the State of Illinois, according to the mining department of the University of Illinois, which today completed a test of some ore brought to the institution. The ore is from Crawford County and was taken from a hill alongside a stream. The ore was pronounced to be of a very high grade, but as the sample was small a larger testing is to be made in the near future.

Gold has been before discovered in the State, but as the deposit was small, it has been considered a glacial deposit.

Carnage Tremendous As Armies Hammer at Each Other's Flanks

Windrows of Dead Cover Fields of Poland in Bloodiest Fighting the World Has Ever Known—Germans, on Brink of Disaster, Escaped Russian Trap, and, Heavily Re-enforced, Are Taking the Offensive, When Under All Rules of Warfare They Should Be on the Defensive. Advantage Still Lies with Muscovites, Although Fresh Teuton Troops Are Being Feverishly Pushed Forward. Czar's Left Wing Menaced by Von Hindenburg's Tactics.

GREECE AND TURKEY NEAR WAR

Athens, Dec. 4.—The Greek government received word today from its minister at Constantinople that his departure is imminent as the result of a breach with the Turkish government.

Turkish officials charged the Greek minister with maintaining a secret wireless apparatus in the legation and insisted upon searching the place, but the diplomat threatened to leave the city if such action were taken.

The Greek government is upholding its minister.

Special Dispatch to The Washington Herald.

Paris, Dec. 4.—Attack and counter attack, which are leaving trenches piled high with dead and soaking the earth with mingled Russian and German blood, are in progress around Lodz, where each army is engaged in a series of attempts to turn the other's flank, according to Ludovic Naudeau, war correspondent of the Paris Journal, attached to the Russian general staff. Writing today of the fighting in Poland, M. Naudeau says:

"The battle in Poland continues with new developments and sudden amplifications in unforeseen directions. It is perhaps the bloodiest fighting the universe has ever known."

"When upon the very brink of disaster, the Germans, at the cost of immense losses, escaped the bear hug of the Siberian corps. The Germans were able to reconstruct their shattered ranks and fortify their front, and now furious fighting is in progress in the zone in which Lodz is the center."

Field a Charnel House.

"The western section of the battle front begins at Zdunskowola on the Warthe River and passes through Zgierz and Strykow, ending at Bielawy and Sobota, which is about twelve miles west of Lodz."

"South of this line, where the Germans escaped through the Russian cross fire, the field is a charnel house. All who have been upon the battlefield say that the carnage is terrible. The trenches are piled high with German corpses."

"There is one ruined village where in three successive charges the Germans were mowed down by Siberian sharpshooters like falling rows of corn. In the hand-to-hand fighting soldiers were impaled on bayonets or fell with skulls crushed with the butt ends of rifles."

Russians Hold Advantage.

"At present on the German left, near Lodz, the adversaries are engaged in stubborn attacks and counter-attacks. Each side is trying to turn the other's flank to prevent a further offensive."

"The advantage there remains with the Russians."

M. Naudeau says that the Germans are feverishly pushing forward reinforcements.

"They are stubbornly sticking to their offensive ideas, although their strategy in this theater is really defensive," says M. Naudeau's telegram. If the Germans are forced to retreat the Russian grand army will swarm into Galicia. The Germans, instead of trying to stem the Russian advance by defensive tactics, are trying to turn both Russian flanks.

"On the left of the battle front, near Lodz, the Germans are failing because of the increased pressure of the Russians. Upon the right end, near the German frontier, even a greater task faces the Kaiser's troops. In this region the Germans have been re-enforced with troops drawn from Kalisch. The German line through Sieradz and Zdunskowola, which has thus been strengthened, is again menacing the Russian left."

Portuguese Cabinet Out, Is Report to Madrid

Madrid, Dec. 4.—It is reported from Lisbon that the Portuguese cabinet has resigned.

A second Portuguese expeditionary force is leaving for an unnamed port in Africa.

Prince of Wales at Front With Father, Is Report

London, Dec. 4.—A telegram from Calais states that the Prince of Wales has gone to the front with his father, King George.

Hotel Woodstock, New York City.
Quiet and in the heart of things.—Adv.